

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides methods of inhibiting release of zinc from
5 neurons and of preventing zinc-mediated brain injury. Also provided are methods of
improving cerebral blood flow while preventing zinc-mediated brain injury. Inhibitors of
or activators of nitric oxide synthases modulate nitric oxide synthesis to reduce nitric
oxide-induced release of neurotoxic amounts of zinc, thereby reducing zinc-mediated
neuronal injury after brain trauma.